



CITY OF DANBURY CULTURAL COMMISSION

256 Main Street
Danbury, Connecticut 06810
203 797 4508

June 28, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting

Meeting called to order, as a video conference call, by Chairman Harvey Center at 6:30 pm with Commissioners: John Cherry, John Cooke, Ed Moore, Cheryl Hill, Gregory Smith, and Coordinator Gregory Wencek. Absent: Helen Bechard, and Mary Burke. Public: Sandy Chaleski.

Announcement: Commissioner Helen Masterson Bechard has passed away. Chairman, HCenter asked for a moment of silence to remember her. HBechard was the second longest serving Commission member. She was appointed by Mayor Sauer in 1987. A donation in her memory will be collected as soon as arrangements are made public.

Presentation of Minutes

The Minutes of the May meeting were submitted. A motion by GSmith to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by JCooke. Passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

None

Reports on DCC sponsored events

- Events SPORADIC Effective with Gov. Lamont's Executive Order No. 7PP

Danbury events not sponsored by the Commission

- Danbury Music Centre
 - First Friday Jazz
- Danbury Museums
- Palace Theater Danbury
- Galleries
 - Gallery at Still River Editions
 - @287 287 Main St. Danbury
 - Gallery of the Visual and Performing Arts Center WCSU Westside campus, 43 Lake Ave. Extension
 - Mothership on Main - "Emergence": A Fine Art Show
- Danbury Library

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
DANBURY TOWN CLERK

2021 AUG - 3 A 8 42

BY: AGT

Upcoming events

Calendar submitted to the Commissioners, and maintained at DanburyArts.com

Carillon Concerts at St. James' every Wednesday 12:30

EVENTS HAVE BEEN SLOW TO RESUME DUE TO THE COVID19 PANDEMIC.

Coordinator's Report

1. Approval sought for website 2021 - 2022



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2. Make Music Day
 - a. Acceptance of the mini-grant by the City Council was approved
 - i. *Item 15 of the Consent Calendar. RESOLUTION – Cultural Commission Grant*
 - ii. *Receive the communication and adopt the Resolution authorizing Mayor Joseph M. Cavo, or Gregory Wencek, Coordinator of the Cultural Commission, as his designee, to accept funding from the Make Music Alliance in an amount not to exceed \$750.00, such funds to be used for an annual international music festival held on June 21st, there is no city match required.*
 - iii. *A motion was made by Councilman Fox , and was seconded by Councilman Taborsak, to adopt the Consent Calendar with the removal of Item 13.*
 - iv. *The motion carried unanimously.*
 - b. Pay for John Fazio for Promotion, Advertising, and extensive coordination of the project.
3. Moving to the Cultural Commission offices, discussion potential with another City entity.

Appeals from Community groups:

Danbury Concert Association - - Kathryn Taylor Kloss, Executive Director, requests \$7,500.

The DCA was only able to produce one half of their previous season. They plan to bring 3 artists for this next season: March, April, and May 2022. No venues or artists are booked but tentative schedules have been worked out and deposit funding will secure the events.

During the COVID19 cancelled season some patrons asked for refunds, some took credit for future performances, and some made a donation of their paid admissions. The fees for performers, royalties, and travel expenses have risen after the year of musicians not performing. The DCA has received free accommodations for their artists from a few local hotels.

Commissioner JCherry asked about the previous Cultural Commission grant funds. Ms Taylor Kloss said it remains in their treasury. The DCA is discussing a reduction in their subscription price because there will be 1 less concert than usual this season.

Old Business

1. Outreach to younger audiences - Update
 - a. Jonathan Wencek has accepted the job to increase awareness of the Commission and its activities predominantly to younger audiences. His approach includes increased "Social Media" involvement including Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. His planning continues.
2. Make Music Day - Successful with more artists and venues than ever before.
 - a. John Fazzio, Jr. picked up the ball and signed up artists and venues throughout Main Street and Delay Street (by the Ice Arena). He is already working on 2022.

Action on Grant Requests:

Danbury Concert Association requests \$7,500. Moved by CHill to grant \$2,000.00, seconded by GSmith.

DISCUSSION: With the remaining previous grant the total amount available to the Danbury Concert Association from the Cultural Commission would be \$5,800.

CALLED: The motion to grant \$2,000 to the the Danbury Concert Association for the 2021 - 2022 Concert



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season, passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

Motion to pay \$200 for the Commission's website (URL) made by EMoore, seconded by GSmith

DISCUSSION: This is an annual fee to Square Space for URL and hosting.

CALLED: Passed by unanimous vote.

Other Business

Questions about when in-person meetings will resume were answered with: The City is following the State's guidelines. As of June 26 there is no official word about in-person meetings in the City.

The City Council will not resume in-person meetings until August, due to chamber renovations.

Questions about continuing video meetings during in-person meetings will be considered.

Motion to adjourn at 7:10

Made by CHill. Passed by Unanimous vote.

NOTE:

Corporation Counsel has provided the Clerk's office with the following... Current as of 3/16/20:

Effective with Gov. Lamont's Executive Order No. 7B issued on 3/14/20, the requirement of public attendance at all meetings of public agencies is suspended. Meetings are to be held remotely by conference call, videoconference, or other technology, provided that (in summary):

1) the public has the ability to view or listen to each meeting or proceeding in real time by phone, video or other technology.

Therefore the Commission office had set up a video conference call which started at 6:00 on Monday evening. Commissioners and the public connected to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88512846000?pwd=MFQ2NytUMzY4Wk94NXM2NUdHODE2UT09>

Meeting ID: 885 1284 6000 Passcode: 422691

One tap mobile +19292056099,,88512846000#,,,,*422691# US (New York)	Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 885 1284 6000 Passcode: 422691
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The meeting started at 6:30 and was not recorded by the Commission.

Upcoming events CURTAILED Effective with Gov. Lamont's Executive Order No. 7B

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